



Figure I.1. Confounding effect of selective mortality on inferences about age changes. Each solid line segment represents the pattern of change in an individual (in this case there is no change with aging, and death occurs at the end of the line). High values for the variable X are assumed to be deleterious. The closed circles represent mean values that would be obtained in a cross-sectional study; the dashed line connecting these dots would then correctly represent age *differences* among age groups, but the inference that age *changes* were occurring in individuals would be erroneous.